

REMARKS

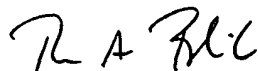
Claims 1-13 are canceled without prejudice.

Upon entry of the amendment, claims 14-16 are active.

No new matter is believed to have been added. An action on the merits and allowance of the claims is requested.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Norman F. Oblon
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 24,618

Thomas A. Blinka, Ph. D.
Registration No. 44,541



22850

Tel.: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413-2220
NFO/DRE